

Klaasjan Ouens

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I am a generalist, able to find the bigger picture and convert an abstract end goal into smaller tasks, regardless of discipline. My scientific and analytical skills can also be applied to problem solving outside of science. I am highly motivated by both learning and teaching. My experience as a professional musician has made me comfortable with public speaking, and experienced with organizing and promoting events.

Work experience

Embedded PhD Student

38 hours a week

Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam

December 2014– present

Under the working title “Next Generation Bioinformatics” I am investigating genetic differences between monozygotic twins, as well as the feasibility of large-scale genetic analysis using next generation sequence data. This is in collaboration with software company Genalice. I was teaching assistant for the course “Behavioral Genetics”.

Research assistant

38 hours a week

Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam

October 2014– December 2014

As a temporary research assistant at the department of biological psychology, I assisted with the analysis of data for various research projects, including a large meta-analysis identifying genetic variants associated with childhood ADHD.

Education

Master Neurosciences, specialization Behavioral and Medical Genomics

Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam

September 2011 – August 2014

Internships:

Department of Biological Psychology, VU University Amsterdam

Topic: *Finding genes for Neuroticism: a candidate gene and whole genome analysis*

Department of Quantitative Psychology, University of Notre Dame, US &

Department of Biological Psychology, VU University Amsterdam

Topic: *Investigating phenotypic heterogeneity of Trait Anger*

Extracurricular activities:

VU-Boomsma University Research Fellow

12 hours a week

Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam

Aug 2012– Aug 2013

I have been appointed VU-Boomsma-Fellow by Dorret Boomsma, professor in biological psychology, in the academic year 2012-2013. Tasks include data management and harmonization for meta-analyses of genome-wide association studies.

Bachelor Computer Science

Specialization: Artificial Intelligence

Subject of thesis: *Effects of social robots on human stress levels*

Extracurricular activities:

Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam

September 2006 – June 2011

Teaching assistant “Human-Computer Interaction”*10 hours a week***Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam**

Apr 2011– Jul 2011

A third-year computer science course about the design and evaluation of user friendly interfaces

- Technical support during computer lab sessions
- Grading assignments and exams

Teaching Assistant “Project Knowledge Systems”*20 hours a week***Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam**

Jun 2010 – Jul 2010, Jun 2011 – Jul 2011

A project course teaching how to design an intelligent ambient system, providing support with visual attention during demanding tasks

- Updating and maintaining all online information
- Supervising practicals
- Grading assignments

Student PR assistant*ca. 2 hours a month***Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam**

Jan 2007 – Jun 2011

I have been involved in the promotion of my study program since my second year at the university. I have been regularly giving presentations, including at the Bachelor's Information Day and at high schools.

Student Council Faculty of Science*10 hours a week***Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam**

Sep 2009 - Aug 2011

As a member of the student council I represented the interest of the students of the faculty. I was primarily involved in handling complaints from students, the PR and education-related issues. In the first year I was also responsible for internal communication. In the second year, as president, maintaining a good understanding with the faculty board was added to my tasks.

Student member education committee*3 hours a week***Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam**

Nov 2007 – Aug 2011

As a member of the education committee, I was always trying to find ways to improve education wherever possible. I have been checking and improving the education and examination regulations and have been involved in improvements of the curriculum. As the student members, we regularly organized meetings with students to collect complaints.

Secondary school: VWO

Specialization: Natuur & Gezondheid (Nature & Health)

Extra courses: Physics, Music

Willem de Zwijger College, Bussum

September 2002 – August 2006

Secondary school: VWO**Heerenlanden College, Leerdam**

September 2000 – August 2002

Publications

Ouwens, K. G., Jansen, R., Tolhuis, B., Slagboom, P. E., Penninx, B. W., & Boomsma, D. I. (2018). A characterization of postzygotic mutations identified in monozygotic twins. *Human mutation*, 39(10), 1393-1401.

Marschall, T., Marz, M., Abeel T., Dijkstra, L., Dutilh, B., Ghaffaari A., ... & Schoenhuth A., (2016). Computational Pan-Genomics: Status, Promises and Challenges. *Briefings in Bioinformatics*.

Middeldorp, C. M.*, Hammerschlag, A. R.*, Ouwens, K. G.*, Groen-Blokhuis, M. M., Pourcain, B. S., Greven, C. U., ... & Vilor-Tejedor, N. (2016). A Genome-Wide Association Meta-Analysis of Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder Symptoms in Population-Based Paediatric Cohorts. *Journal of the American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry*.

van Den Berg, S. M., de Moor, M. H., Verweij, K. J., Krueger, R. F., Luciano, M., Vasquez, A. A., ... & Gordon, S. D. (2015). Meta-analysis of Genome-Wide Association Studies for Extraversion: Findings from the Genetics of Personality Consortium. *Behavior genetics*, 1-13.

Lubke, G. H., Ouwens, K. G., de Moor, M. H., Trull, T. J., & Boomsma, D. I. (2015). Population heterogeneity of trait anger and differential associations of trait anger facets with borderline personality features, neuroticism, depression, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), and alcohol problems. *Psychiatry research*, 230(2), 553-560.

De Moor, M. H., Van Den Berg, S. M., Verweij, K. J., Krueger, R. F., Luciano, M., Vasquez, A. A., ... & Gordon, S. D. (2015). Meta-analysis of genome-wide association studies for neuroticism, and the polygenic association with major depressive disorder. *JAMA psychiatry*, 72(7), 642-650.

van den Berg, S. M., de Moor, M. H., McGue, M., Pettersson, E., Terracciano, A., Verweij, K. J., ... & Hansell, N. K. (2014). Harmonization of Neuroticism and Extraversion phenotypes across inventories and cohorts in the Genetics of Personality Consortium: an application of Item Response Theory. *Behavior genetics*, 44(4), 295-313.